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Item 46 of the preliminary list*
QUESTION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS)

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 7 May 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement issued by the Government of the Argentine Republic on 7 May 1993 concerning the unilateral act whereby the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland seeks to extend its maritime jurisdiction in the waters adjacent to the South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands (see annex).

I should be grateful if you could have this note and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 46 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council, and brought to the attention of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

(Signed) Raul A. RICARDES
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/48/50.

ANNEX

Statement dated 7 May 1993 by the Government of the Argentine Republic

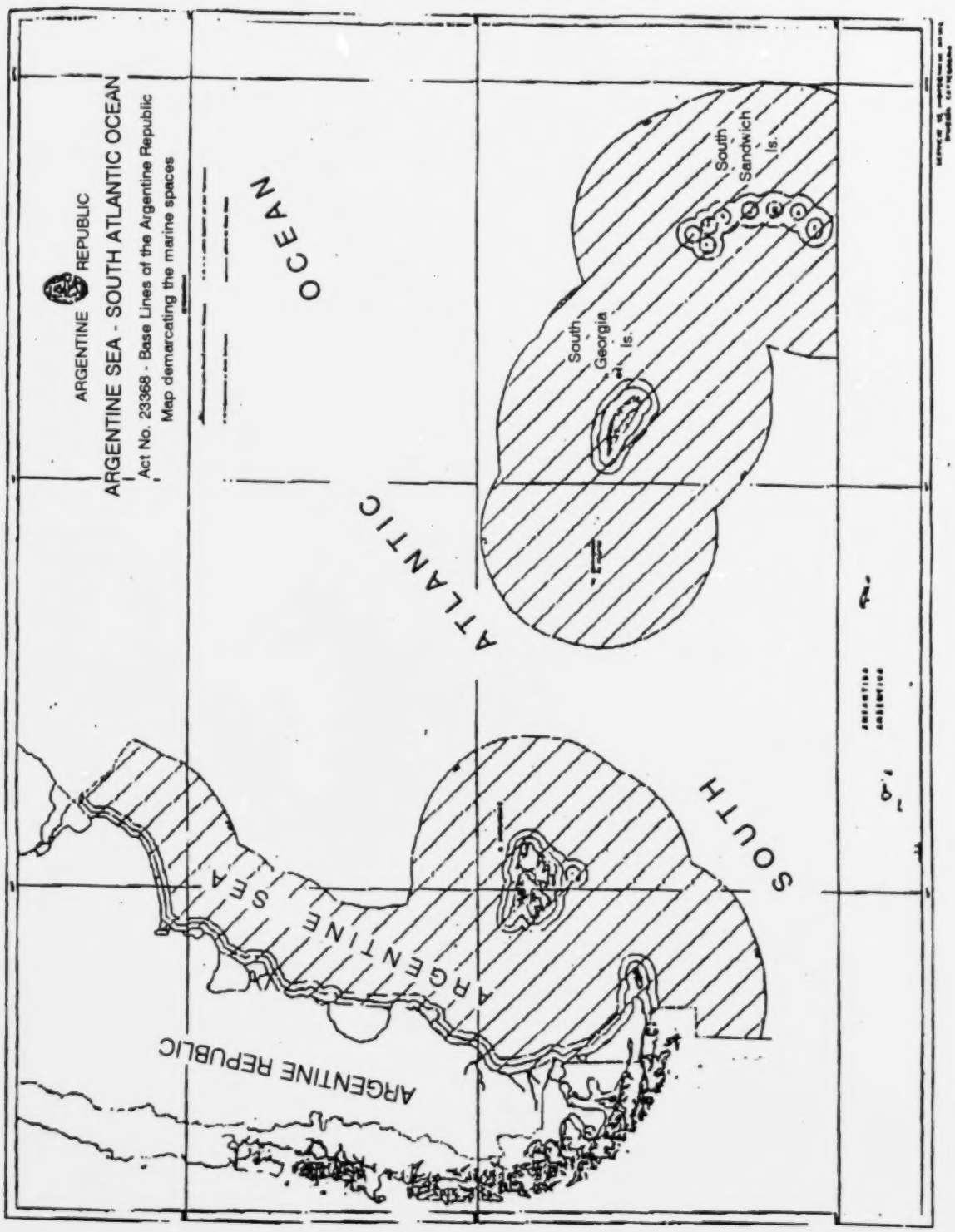
Today, the Government of the United Kingdom adopted a measure extending its alleged jurisdiction in respect of maritime spaces surrounding the South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands.

The Argentine Government strongly rejects this measure, reaffirms the legitimate rights of sovereignty of the Argentine Republic over the South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and recalls that these territories form part of the dispute concerning sovereignty which the United Nations recognizes and is keeping under consideration.

In this context, an official note of rejection and protest has been delivered to the Embassy of the United Kingdom in Buenos Aires, and the Embassy of the Argentine Republic in London has been instructed to take the same steps vis-à-vis the British Government. In addition, the text of this declaration will be transmitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States with a request that it be circulated as an official document of those organizations.

It should be recalled that more than 20 years have elapsed since the Argentine Republic extended its jurisdiction and sovereignty over the maritime spaces adjacent to Argentine territory, including these islands, in accordance with international law. Act No. 17,094 of 29 December 1966 provided for the extension of these rights to 200 nautical miles and for sovereignty over the continental shelf.

Subsequently, the scope of the jurisdiction and sovereignty of Argentina over these spaces, including the South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, was specified in Act No. 23,968 on maritime spaces, promulgated on 10 September 1991. The scope of that legislation may be seen from the attached map.


ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
ARGENTINE SEA - SOUTH ATLANTIC OCEAN
Act No. 23968 - Base Lines of the Argentine Republic
Map demarcating the marine spaces
OCEAN
ATLANTIC
SOUTH
South Sandwich Is.
South Georgia Is.
ARGENTINE SEA
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC